

REMARKS

Claims 23-36 are pending. By this Amendment, the specification is amended, claims 1-22 are canceled and claims 23-36 are added. The new claims are fully supported in the present application, on pages 11 and 12 and by Figs. 4a and 4b.

The Office Action objects to the title of the invention. The title is amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to claim 16. Claim 16 is canceled, rendering the objection moot. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 5, 15, 16, 19 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 5, 15, 16, 19 and 22 are canceled, rendering the rejection moot. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4, 6-8, 10, 12-15, 17, 18, 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,444,772 to Harasawa in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,128,678 to Masteller; claims 5, 9, 16, 19, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Harasawa, Masteller, and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0043168 to Koyama; and rejects claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Harasawa, Masteller, and U.S. Patent No. 5,912,653 to Fitch. These rejections are respectfully traversed with respect to the newly added claims 23-36.

Independent claim 23 recites, "wherein the second port senses the req signal when the first port raises a level of the req signal signal from an L level to an H level, and the second port raises a level of the ack signal from the L level to the H level when sensing the req signal, and the first port senses a transition of the ack signal when the level of the ack signal is raised from the L level to the H level, and the first port lowers the level of the req signal from the H level to the L level."

When designing a large scale circuit, a problem is encountered in that the clock delay tends to increase as the wiring resistance increases. Under such circumstances, in order to form a high-performance panel on a substratum as a System-On-Panel, the development of new design technique which makes it possible to reduce the clock delay is desirable. In order to solve this problem, the claimed peripheral circuit is designed by means of asynchronous design technology.

Masteller discloses an asynchronous circuit. (See Masteller's Fig. 3.) Harasawa discloses a wearable shirt with an attached organic EL panel 3. (See Harasawa's Fig. 1.) However, the organic EL panel disclosed by Harasawa is not a large scale circuit and therefore it can reasonably be assumed that there is hardly any clock delay. Consequently, Harasawa is silent on the problem that the clock delay tends to increase as the wiring resistance increases. That is, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Harasawa with respect to the need for designing a large scale circuit by means of asynchronous design technology in order to reduce the clock delay. As such, even if Harasawa and Masteller are combined, such a combination would not render obvious the features of independent claim 1.

In addition to the above, Harasawa and Masteller fail to disclose or suggest a four-phase (Return to Zero) handshaking, as required by the above-mentioned features of independent claim 23. Accordingly, the combination of Masteller, Harasawa, fail to disclose or suggest the recited features of independent claim 23.

Koyama and Fitch fail to cure the deficiencies of Harasawa and Masteller. Thus, Harasawa, Masteller, Koyama and Fitch fail to disclose or suggest all the recited features of independent claim 23.

The dependent claims are allowable at least for their dependence of allowable claim 23 and for the additional features they recite.

It is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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